

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: May 3, 2007

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:25 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Vernon Brown, Chair
Bob Cockrum
Susie Day
Ron Gibson
Monroe Gray, Jr.
Dane Mahern
William Oliver
Earl Salisbury

Absent Members

PROPOSAL NO. 106, 2007 - appoints Debbie Grew to the Indianapolis Greenways Development Committee, as a representative of the Eagle Creek area
"Do Pass" Vote: 8-0

Presentation on Summer Arts Program – Paul Norman

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation Committee of the City-County Council met on Thursday, May 3, 2007. Chair Vernon Brown called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present: Bob Cockrum, Susie Day, Ron Gibson, Monroe Gray, Jr., Dane Mahern, William "Duke" Oliver, and Earl Salisbury.

PROPOSAL NO. 106, 2007 - appoints Debbie Grew to the Indianapolis Greenways Development Committee, as a representative of the Eagle Creek area

Karina Straub, Manager, Indy Parks Greenways, stated that there is a vacancy on the Greenways Board and Ms. Grew has taken an interest in the board and would like to join.

Ms. Grew stated that she lives in Eagle Creek Woods, which is less than a half mile from the park. She said that she is currently an undergraduate counselor with the Indiana University (IU) School of Nursing and has been with IUPUI for five years. Ms. Grew stated that she loves the parks and trails and can really see the importance of having the trails. She said that she would really like to contribute to the Greenways Board.

Councillor Cockrum asked the committee clerk if the background check was completed. The committee clerk answered in the affirmative.

Councillor Gray asked if Ms. Grew has talked with her neighbors to see how they like the trails. Ms. Grew stated that she has not had a chance to talk with her neighbors. She stated that her only concern for the trails is the flow of traffic from the soccer fields. Councillor Gray asked if Ms. Grew is familiar with the fact that the neighbors protested against the trails. Ms. Grew answered in the affirmative. Councillor Gray asked if they have changed their minds. Ms. Grew stated that she does not know if they have changed their minds.

{Clerk's Note: Councillor Salisbury arrived at 5:03 p.m.}

Councillor Gibson thanked Ms. Grew for her commitment to serve on the Greenways Committee. He asked Ms. Grew if there is any way the trails can be improved and how can the department get more people interested. Ms. Grew stated that the famous movie quote, "If you build it, they will come" is true, and people have already come to use the trails. She said that one thing to improve upon would be to stop mowing the native grass, because it takes away from the wildlife there. Ms. Grew stated that she is amazed at how the area has been transformed and how many people use that trail every day. It is a wonderful addition to the neighborhood.

Joseph Wynns, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), stated that they are glad to have Ms. Grew come aboard. He said that the Greenways Committee is

switching over to a new challenge where they are going to refocus on development and raising funds to expand the trail systems.

Councillor Gibson moved, seconded by Councillor Mahern, to send Proposal No. 106, 2007 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. This motion carried by a vote of 8-0.

Presentation on Summer Arts Program

Paul Norman, Arts Services Manager for Indy Parks and Recreation, reviewed a powerpoint presentation in detail, which is attached as Exhibit A. Some of the key points of the presentation were:

- Garfield Park Arts Center
 - May 2006 expanded to the Indianapolis Southside
 - Opening featured the "Alvarado Photography Exhibit" from the Smithsonian
 - 15,000 patrons participated in the grand opening
- Partner Sponsorships
 - Smithsonian Institution
 - Comcast Cares (sponsored After School Programs)
 - Indianapolis Arts Center
 - The Mayor's Commission on Latino Affairs
- Creative Kids After School Program
 - Serving urban youth ages 6-16
 - Provided daily
 - Multi cultural visual and performing arts
- Movies in the Park
 - Started 8 years ago
 - Outreach to 18 Indy Parks Movies
 - 12 City Market Movies
 - 6 Indiana History Center Movies
 - 38 total film showings

Chair Brown asked if there will be a detailed schedule of dates, times and places for the Movies in the Park. Mr. Norman answered in the affirmative, stating that the schedule will be available in the Arts Guide in about two weeks.

Councillor Salisbury asked if the attendance figures for 2007 will be adjusted if the attendance is higher or lower, and if there will be another set of figures provided for the committee. Mr. Norman stated that at the end of summer, a more detailed list will be provided.

New Business

Councillor Gray thanked Councillor Salisbury for his tenure and dedication to the Council and Parks Committee. Councillor Gray wished Councillor Salisbury well in his future endeavors.

Chair Brown also wished Councillor Salisbury well and stated that he will be missed.

Councillor Salisbury stated that he has enjoyed being here and learning from each member.

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernon Brown, Chair
Parks and Recreation Committee

VB/law